Article Submission Guidelines

1. Overview

The **African Journal of Reproduction and Gynaecological Endoscopy (AJRGE)** is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal dedicated to advancing research, clinical practice, and innovation in reproductive medicine and minimally invasive gynaecological surgery.

Authors are invited to submit original, high-quality manuscripts that align with the journal's scope and uphold the highest standards of academic and ethical integrity.

2. Types of Articles Accepted

AJRGE welcomes submissions in the following categories:

- **Original Research Articles**
  Reports of novel clinical, experimental, or epidemiological studies.
- **Review Articles**
  Comprehensive and critical evaluations of current knowledge in a specific area.
- **Case Reports / Case Series**
  Unique or rare clinical cases with significant educational value.
- **Short Communications**
  Brief reports of preliminary or innovative findings.
- **Clinical Practice Articles / Technical Notes**
  Descriptions of surgical techniques, procedures, or innovations.
- **Editorials**
  Expert opinions or commentary (usually by invitation).
- **Letters to the Editor**
  Constructive critiques or discussions related to published work.

3. Manuscript Preparation and Formatting

3.1 General Format

- Manuscripts must be submitted in **Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx)**
- Language: **English (British or American English accepted, but must be consistent)**
- Line spacing: **1.5 or double-spaced**
- Page size: **A4**
- Margins: **1 inch (2.54 cm) on all sides**

3.2 Font and Text Style

- Font: **Times New Roman**
- Font size:
  - Main text: **12 pt**

    - Headings: **14 pt (bold)**
- Alignment: **Justified**
- Page numbers: **Bottom right**

4. Structure of Manuscript

4.1 Title Page

- Title of the article (concise and informative)
- Full names of all authors
- Institutional affiliations
- Corresponding author details (email, phone number)
- Word count

4.2 Abstract

- Maximum **250 words**
- Structured for original research:
    - Background
    - Methods
    - Results
    - Conclusion
- Include **3–6 keywords**

4.3 Main Text

For Original Research Articles:

- Introduction
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion

Other article types may follow an appropriate structure.

5. Tables, Figures, and Illustrations

- Must be clearly labelled and numbered consecutively
- Provide descriptive captions
- Submit high-resolution images (JPEG, PNG, or TIFF)
- Ensure patient anonymity in clinical images

6. Reference Style

AJRGE adopts the **Vancouver referencing style**.

Examples:

Journal Article:
Author(s). Title of article. Journal Name. Year; Volume(Issue): Page numbers.

Book:
Author(s). Title of Book. Edition. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.

- References should be numbered in the order they appear in the text
- Use superscript numbering within the text

7. Ethical Considerations

- All research involving human participants must comply with ethical standards
- Ethical approval must be stated where applicable
- Informed consent must be obtained for identifiable patient data
- AJRGE adheres to international best practices, including COPE and ICMJE guidelines

8. Plagiarism Policy

- Manuscripts must be **original and unpublished**
- Submissions are subject to plagiarism screening
- Plagiarism or duplicate publication will result in rejection

9. Article Processing Charge (APC)

AJRGE operates an open-access model. Upon acceptance, authors are required to pay an:

Article Processing Charge (APC): $100 USD

- Payment is required **only after acceptance**
- Covers peer review management, editing, and publication
- Payment details will be communicated upon acceptance

10. Submission Process

- Manuscripts should be submitted via the AJRGE online submission system
- Authors must ensure all required fields and documents are completed
- A confirmation email will be sent upon successful submission

11. Peer Review Process

- All submissions undergo **double-blind peer review**
- Authors may be required to revise manuscripts based on reviewer feedback
- Final decision rests with the Editorial Board

12. Copyright and Licensing

- Authors retain copyright of their work
- Articles are published under an appropriate open-access license (to be specified by the journal)

13. Contact for Submissions

For inquiries regarding submissions, authors may contact the Editorial Office via the contact details provided on the AJRGE website.

14. Publication Ethics & Compliance (COPE / ICMJE)

The **African Journal of Reproduction and Gynaecological Endoscopy (AJRGE)** is committed to maintaining the highest standards of publication ethics and integrity. The Journal adheres to internationally recognised best practices, including guidelines established by the Committee on Publication Ethics and the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.

14.1 Authorship Criteria

Authorship must be based on the following criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception, design, data acquisition, or analysis
- Drafting or critically revising the manuscript
- Final approval of the version to be published
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work

All four criteria must be met. Contributors who do not meet these criteria should be acknowledged appropriately.

14.2 Originality and Duplicate Submission

- Manuscripts must be original and not under consideration elsewhere
- Duplicate or redundant publication is strictly prohibited
- All sources must be properly cited

14.3 Plagiarism and Misconduct

- AJRGE operates a **zero-tolerance policy** on plagiarism
- Submissions are screened using plagiarism detection tools
- Fabrication, falsification, or manipulation of data will result in rejection and possible notification of institutions

14.4 Conflict of Interest

Authors must disclose any financial or non-financial conflicts of interest that could influence the research or interpretation of findings.

A statement of conflict of interest must be included in the manuscript.

14.5 Ethical Approval and Consent

- Studies involving human participants must include:
    - Evidence of **ethical approval** from a recognised institutional review board (IRB)
    - A statement confirming **informed consent**
- For case reports:
    - Written patient consent must be obtained where identification is possible

14.6 Clinical Trial Registration

Clinical trials must be registered in a publicly accessible registry before participant enrollment. The registration number should be included in the manuscript.

14.7 Data Transparency and Availability

Authors are encouraged to:

- Provide access to underlying data where appropriate
- Clearly describe methods and data sources
- Ensure reproducibility of results

14.8 Corrections, Retractions, and Expressions of Concern

AJRGE will:

- Issue corrections for errors that affect interpretation
- Retract articles in cases of serious misconduct or invalid findings
- Publish expressions of concern where necessary

All actions will follow COPE guidelines.

14.9 Peer Review Integrity

- AJRGE operates a **double-blind peer review process**
- Reviewers are expected to maintain confidentiality and objectivity
- Any ethical concerns raised during review will be investigated thoroughly

14.10 Editorial Independence

Editorial decisions are made independently of:

- Authors' affiliations
- Funding sources
- Commercial interests

The editorial process is guided solely by scientific merit, relevance, and ethical standards.